

protested to San Francisco County Supervisors against school nurses practicing medicine by attempting diagnosis of disease and ordering surgical operations.

There is a grim sort of humor in a situation where one body of, for the most part, unlicensed practitioners of medicine protest against the competition of another unlicensed group. Neither of these groups is adequately educated or experienced to assume the serious responsibilities of life and death that both are being widely charged with assuming.

Commercial Exhibits at the California Medical Association Meeting in Los Angeles—The following advertisers carrying space in California and Western Medicine will have commercial exhibits at the annual session in Los Angeles:

The Vitalait Laboratory, Pasadena, Calif.

The Calso Company, 524 Gough street, San Francisco.

Horlick's Malted Milk Co., Racine, Wis.

The Medical Protective Company, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Hanovia Chemical and Manufacturing Company.

Scherer, Hospital Supplies, 728 South Flower street, Los Angeles.

Abbott Drug Co., Chicago, Ill.

Bush Electric Corporation, 334 Sutter street, San Francisco.

Ralph Sweet, Medical Illustrating, 235 Grattan street, San Francisco.

Parke-Davis, Detroit, Mich.

A new Alleged Spokesman for the Regents of the University of California and the California Board of Education—The editorial in California and Western Medicine of February, dealing with the establishment of a course in "optometry" by the physics department of the university has called forth many compliments, and it also drew fire from expected and anticipated sources. The only feature of the comment that was not anticipated was that one class of optometrists presumed to speak for the authorities of the university as well as for the board of education. This they do in an abstract of an editorial published in the April issue of "The Reflex," when they say:

"The regents of the University of California and the State Board of Education have become aware of the constant and continued success that the optometrists are having in giving to the public that for which they have been especially trained—efficient ocular service. They have come at last to the realization that the really efficient method to examine the eyes is **without the use of drugs**, and that only the optometrist is qualified by **education and special examination** to give that kind of an examination to the public."

The reaction of the university and the board of education to the statement of their presumably self-appointed spokesman will be awaited with some concern by all persons interested in the question of adequate education for all persons who treat the sick, including the correction of deformities of the eyes, toes, heart, or any other part of the body.

Old Fractures of the Ankle—It is the belief of Emil S. Geist, Minneapolis (Journal A. M. A., March 22, 1924), that it is absolutely necessary to make liberal use of the roentgen ray in the treatment of ankle fractures, both before and after so-called setting. It is necessary to recognize a type of backward fracture dislocation of the ankle. When fresh, it is easy to treat; when old, it is a bete noire. Correct alinement of the bones comprising the ankle-joint is necessary in order to prevent later disability. Thorough and efficient after-treatment by massage, hot-pack applications, and active and passive motion are necessary. In these cases the Achilles tendon will shorten if it is not watched. In all ankle fractures, no matter of what type, the foot must be held at right angles with the leg.

Medical School News

University of California (reported by L. S. Schmitt, acting dean)—Reserve Hospital Units—The advisory board of the Medical School has recommended to the faculty the organization of a general reserve hospital unit and a surgical reserve hospital unit. Upon approval by the faculty, the commanding officers for each unit will be designated and the surgeon-general of the army requested to give numbers to each unit.

At the last meeting of the Association of American Medical Colleges, a motion was adopted to appoint a commission to include representatives of the Council on Medical Education and Hospitals of the American Medical Association and the Committee on Education and Pedagogics of the Association of American Medical Colleges to carry out a thorough investigation as to what should be the essential requirements for the degree of Doctor of Medicine.

At the same meeting a plan to establish examinations for admission to medical schools, similar to the plan now in vogue for admission to American universities and colleges, was discussed.

Ray Lyman Wilbur, president of Stanford University, was elected president of the Association of American Medical Colleges for the year 1924-25. L. S. Schmitt, acting dean of the University of California Medical School, was appointed a member of the Committee on Education and Pedagogics of the Association of American Medical Colleges.

Stanford University School of Medicine (reported by William Ophuls, dean)—The 1924 Lane Lectures—The following is the final program of the Lane medical lectures to be delivered by Professor Ludwig Aschoff, Professor of Pathology of the University of Freiburg, Germany, at Lane Hall, Stanford University Medical School, corner of Sacramento and Webster streets, San Francisco, for the year 1924, as reported by Dean William Ophuls:

May 26, 1924, 8:15 p. m.—Place of Origin of the Biliary Pigment.

May 27, 1924, 8:15 p. m.—Atherosclerosis.

May 28, 1924, 8:15 p. m.—Ovulation and Menstruation.

May 29, 1924, 8:15 p. m.—The Morphology and Function of the Adrenal Cortex.

May 30, 1924, 8:15 p. m.—Fatty Degeneration.

The medical profession and students of medicine are cordially invited to attend these lectures.

The subjects for this year's lectures are all particularly timely, and every physician ought to make an earnest effort to hear the subjects discussed by a truly great pathologist.

Pneumonia Simulating Appendicitis in Children—

The acute onset of pneumonia with few or no clinical symptoms may simulate acute appendicitis, especially distention in children. Abdominal symptoms of pain, tenderness and rigidity may be present as in the cases cited by Paul A. White, Davenport, Iowa (Journal A. M. A., March 1, 1924). Difficulties in diagnosis are multiplied because of the tender age, lack of intelligence, or fear on the part of the patients. A severe chill at the onset, temperature over 102, and a leukocyte count near or over 20,000, should engender extreme caution and intensify efforts at differentiation. A careful urine examination should always be made.

The "mother instinct," helpful as it is, is not sufficient to cope with the responsibility which comes with motherhood. Children enter the world—little plastic creatures with so much natural force and for the rest blank, and life writes its own story on those blank pages.—Medical Woman's Journal, March 15, 1924.